

TERMS OF THE TRIBUNE.

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TO-DAY'S AMUSEMENTS.
GRAND OPERA-HOUSE.—Clark street, opposite Dearborn street. *Adelphi* and *Lucia di Lammermoor*.
HOLLYWOOD THEATRE.—Randolph street, between Clark and LaSalle. *"Maggie."*
CHICAGO MUSEUM.—Monroe street, between Dearborn and State. *"Uncle Tom's Cabin."*
MYNICK'S THEATRE.—Madison street, between Dearborn and State. *Engagement of the Richmond Opera-Troupe.* *"Tosca."*
ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—Haled street, between Madison and Monroe. *Engagement of Mrs. Agnes Bono.*
ADOLPH THEATRE.—Dearborn street, corner Monmouth. *"The Field of the Cloth of Gold."*
INDEX TO ADVERTISEMENTS.
 THIRD PAGE: City Real Estate, Wants, To Rent, Boarding and Lodging, Lost and Found, Business Notices, Miscellaneous, Obituaries, Deaths.
 SIXTH PAGE: Amusements, Ocean Steamships, Medical, etc.
 SEVENTH PAGE: Railroad Time-Table.

The Chicago Tribune.

Monday Morning, January 25, 1875.

The Democrats in Congress seem to be working quietly for an extra session of Congress, to begin with the 4th of March.

The proposition of some hot-headed partisans in Washington to provide for the army under Democratic rule by making appropriations advance much with little favor among thoughtful Republicans. The party would move rather not have power than to have it by questionable means.

The man who only wanted to identify "Boss" Raymond in order that he might kick him on the spot, is exciting profound respect and sympathy in the court. He has discovered, by the way, that after the daily exhibition of poor Mrs. Raymond in court, the most painful thing in connection with the BECHER trial is the constant attendance of old and young Mrs. BECHER.

THE TRIBUNE has again called upon the Hon. WILLIAM KING to rise and explain his connection with the Pacific Mail affair, and yet he does not respond. By this time we should think the organs in Wisconsin and Minnesota which have stood by KING through evil and through good report would set him down for an ungrateful wretch. He has impeached the good-sense and veracity of his counsel by refusing to come into court. It is not an easy thing to clear a man who has jumped his bail.

We are in receipt of a private letter from a well-informed gentleman who has been in the House of Representatives in Springfield every day during the session (we will not say whether he is a member of the House or not), in which he speaks of Speaker HAYES in a friendly manner, but as "one totally unfit for the position of Speaker." Our informant says that "the leading Democrats, such men as CUMMINGS, LEIS, MERRITT, HERBERTSON, and ARMSTRONG, have affirmed that they cannot go on the record as sustaining him in his rulings." He adds that "Mr. HAYES has been wrong seven times during the session already, and now has actually become unwell, asking for leave of absence to relieve him from impending difficulties." The fact seems to be that, though Mr. HAYES attained the reputation of a great parliamentarian on the floor of the House, he has made a serious mistake in reaching after the Speakership, and that he is sadly out of place. His occupancy of the chair threatens seriously to impede the business of the session; and, unless he makes some decided improvements in his rulings, it will be his duty to call some one else to the chair every morning. If such course becomes necessary to the progress of the work before the Legislature, we hope Mr. HAYES will be patriotic enough to adopt it, even at the sacrifice of his ambition as a politician.

The National Board of Trade of the Dominion of Canada have adopted a resolution urging that in the enlargement of the Welland Canal the depth on the lower side of the locks be increased to fourteen feet, so as to admit the passage of the largest-sized vessels employed on the lakes. Of course this increase of the depth in the Welland Canal must be supplemented by a like increase in the other canals, so that the largest-sized steamers from Chicago may go to and come back from Montreal with full cargoes. The enterprise of our Canadian brethren is commendable. They do not sit down idle and call upon the gods to help them. They put their own shoulders to the wheel. The State of New York has for twenty years refused to enlarge the Erie Canal, deepen its locks, or increase its capacity. During those twenty years the State has received nearly twenty-five millions of dollars of surplus revenue from that canal. In the meantime the trade has drifted away. Philadelphia, Baltimore, Boston, Portland, and Montreal have grasped it. The Canadians, with energy and pluck, have undertaken to extend the navigation of the Upper Lakes to Montreal, and thus effectively flank the Erie Canal and the City of New York. While the people of Canada are expending their five or six millions of dollars to enlarge their system of canals to secure the breadstuff and provision trade of the West, New York, with ten times the commerce, is whining round the lobby at Washington trying to have an item put into some general omnibus improvement act by which the National Treasury shall pay for deepening the locks on the Erie Canal. While New York is thus waiting for a Congressional appropriation, the Canadians are preparing to take the lake trade, as Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Boston are taking the trade by rail.

The Chicago produce markets were steadier in provisions and weak in breadstuffs on Saturday. Meats were less active, and a shade firmer, closing at \$17.75 cash, and \$17.80 seller future. Lard was in fair demand, and 5@10c per 100 lb higher, closing at \$13.25@13.27 1/2c cash, and \$13.30 for February. Meats were quiet and steady at 6@6 1/2c for shoulders, 9 1/2c for short ribs, and 9 1/2c for short loins. Dressed hogs were moderately active and firmer, closing at \$7.00@7.50. Highwines were in fair

demand and steady at 94c per gallon. Flour was dull and unchanged. Wheat was dull and lower, closing at 88 1/2c cash, and 88 1/2c@88 5/8c for February. Corn was dull, and 1-2c lower, closing at 64 3/4c cash, and 71 3/4c seller May. Oats were less active and easier, closing at 52@52 1/2c cash, and 52 1/2c@52 3/4c for February. Rye was quiet and steady at 97c. Barley was dull and 1-2 @1c lower, closing at \$1.25 for February. Hogs were moderately active and firm, with sales chiefly at \$6.00@6.75. Cattle and sheep ruled quiet and easy.

New Year's Day in Paris was one of the most remarkable ever known. Sleet fell in abundance, and by night the streets were glowing sheets of ice. Pedestrians tumbled by the wayside with more or less serious results; and, as the omnibuses and most of the cabs stopped running, scarcely anybody was above being compelled to walk. We print this morning a letter from Paris to a New York journal describing the events of that dreadful night. It is estimated that 1,500 persons were injured by falls, and that 350 horses were disabled and killed. The Parisians, with that fatalism which is characteristic of skeptical natures, attribute their bad fortune in this instance to the fact that New Year's Day fell on a Friday.

It has been proposed at Springfield to change the mode of compensating members of the Legislature from a per diem to an annual salary, and the sum mentioned is \$3,000 per year! The great trouble at Springfield is absenteeism. At least one-third of the members are absent all the time. The present pay is \$5 a day, which, it seems, is considered by many as liberal as to induce them to be in favor of protracted sessions. To others the \$5 a day is so inadequate that it does not cover the actual necessary expenditure, leaving nothing for the neglect of business consequent upon absence from home. The consequence of this is, there are two classes of members who are indifferent—the one who are enjoying better pay than they receive elsewhere, and those who cannot afford to stay at Springfield for such compensation as tended to the business of the State. What is intended is to establish a rate of pay which will insure attendance and a prompt dispatch of business. A salary of \$500 per term would probably not be extravagant, but to enable such an allowance to have any effect on the attendance of members, and the consequent dispatch of business, it should be conditioned upon a penalty for absence. For each day's non-attendance there should be a deduction equal if not greater than the per diem proportion of the whole salary. In this way, the allowance of \$500 for the session would induce the members to attend and hasten the business through in the shortest possible time, and the penalty for non-attendance would prevent the other class from pocketing the round sum and quitting the Capitol. Whatever policy be adopted, it should be remembered by all that the best course is to make the session as short as possible, and this can only be accomplished by a full attendance on the part of those whose time is valuable, and a diligent forcing of business by them. There is no reason why the session should exceed ninety days, and the legitimate business of the Legislature may be transacted in that time if the members will only attend and sit it out continuously.

STATE SOVEREIGNTY.
 In his speech at the Baltimore meeting held to protest against the action of the President and of Gen. SHERIDAN in the Louisiana affair, Mr. REYNOLDS JOHNSON used the following language: "The State (Louisiana) is no sovereign, except so far as she has delegated a portion of her sovereignty to the General Government." This one sentence of the venerable lawyer contains, in a nutshell, the whole doctrine of the Democratic party, and shows that the principles of that party have not changed since the War. It is in no sense true that the "States" have delegated a portion of their sovereignty to the General Government. To admit that they have, is to grant that all the States were once completely sovereign; that the Constitution is only a compact by which part of that sovereignty was alienated to the General Government, and that the United States is not a nation, but a collection of petty States held together by a rope of sand. It may seem absurd to find fault with this theory of our Constitution, or to raise a cry of alarm because it is loudly advocated by the true one. It is, however, very far from absurd. The whole War of the Rebellion lurked in the very proposition enunciated anew by REYNOLDS JOHNSON. It was before the War rightly argued that, if the States were once sovereign and the Federal Government a creature of their making, the Constitution was only a contract, which, on condition broken, the individual States were justified in disregarding. The principle was wrong, and when translated into action could not fail to mislead.

Mr. REYNOLDS JOHNSON makes the nation the creature of the States, and since the creator is superior to the creature, the nation must on his theory be always at the mercy of the States. But the very reverse of Mr. JOHNSON'S view of the relation of the States to the General Government is historically true. To this we have already called attention in THE TRIBUNE. If the States were once completely sovereign and had delegated only a portion of their sovereignty to the General Government by compact, then we are a confederation and not a nation. Under this interpretation of the Constitution, secession is an inalienable political right, and the War of the Rebellion was a wrong for which the Southern people may claim compensation. It cannot be too often repeated, that the people who ordained and established the Constitution were always one people. If they were not one people when it was ordained and established, they are not one people yet. The Constitution is only a law after all, and all laws presuppose a sovereign authority from which they emanate. Before sovereign power can be exercised by the publication of a law or otherwise, there must be a concrete something in which that power exists. Whether we are a nation, or only a confederation, as Mr. REYNOLDS JOHNSON and the Democratic party maintain, is not a question of the interpretation of a written instrument. It is a historical question. Historically, the individual States were never sovereign. They never existed or acted as sovereign States. Before the Declaration of Independence they were colonies of Great Britain; and, as colonies, not sovereign. Since the Declaration of Independence they have been States united into a nation, acted as united, and been recognized by the civilized world only as States united. By the Declaration of Independence they appeared before the world as united independent States. But they have never appeared, and they never were in fact, severally independent States. That Decla-

tion was made by the States as a unit, not by the States as sovereign individuals. The individual States had powers, and rights, and privileges, but not sovereignty; not even a symbol of sovereignty. They had separately no flag, they made no money, they carried no mails, and they held no foreign relations. Jointly, not severally, they won their independence. They never exercised the right of sovereignty except as the United States. When British sovereignty ceased in this country, American sovereignty began.

Were the Supreme Court of the United States to adopt Mr. REYNOLDS JOHNSON'S views of the full sovereignty of the States previous to the adoption of our Constitution, it would be compelled to maintain that the United States is only a confederation; that secession was the right of the Southern States; that the War of the Rebellion was a violation of the Constitution; that the national debt was created for unconstitutional purposes and should be repudiated; that the slaves should not have been emancipated and should be restored to their former masters. Viewed from their standpoint, our whole history during the last forty years is made up of a series of violations of the organic law of the land,—of unconstitutional acts from which those who have suffered are entitled to compensation. If he is right, those whom we have been calling rebels so long are real patriots, and the gallant men who laid down their lives for the Union are the real traitors.

The States have rights which the National Government is bound to respect, not because they are, or ever were, sovereign States; but because these rights are guaranteed to them by law,—by the sovereign law of the land. This THE TRIBUNE maintains, and will continue to maintain. Between this and the Democratic doctrine, however, there is a world-wide difference. In this doctrine there is safety. In the Democratic, there is nothing but danger; for if the advocates of that doctrine should obtain the ascendancy, there would be an undoing of all that has been done to make the Union permanent. The American people will do well to ponder before they admit such men to power. They are not making disinterested efforts to regain their ante-War influence in national politics, and the great question before the people is whether they will be permitted to succeed,—4-c, whether the upholders of national unity and national sovereignty, having defeated secession in the field, will surrender to it in the arena of legislation.

CONVULSIVE DEMAGOGUERY.
 The Illinois House of Representatives, with a unanimity which is singular considering the character of its action, has passed the following resolution, which had previously passed the Senate unanimously:

Resolved by the Senate of the State of Illinois, the House concurring therein, That the United States Senator from this State be instructed, and the Representatives in Congress from this State be requested, to use all means in their power to secure the speedy passage of a bill, now pending in the Congress of the United States, entitled "an act granting pensions to soldiers and sailors of the War of 1861, 1862, 1863, and 1864, and the widows of deceased soldiers and sailors."

A similar resolution was passed in the Indiana House of Representatives on the 22d inst. unanimously. By this action these two Legislatures instruct their Congressmen to support the bill now pending, which gives every person who served sixty days or over in the Mexican War a pension of \$8 per month during the remainder of his life; or, if he be not alive, then to his widow. In other words, they instruct Congress to add several millions more to the already overburdened pension-list of the country, and why? What rightful claims have these Mexican volunteers for a pension?

The Mexican War was only a war of conquest, a raid on a large scale, against a neighboring weak Republic, which resulted in stripping her of nearly half her territory. It was a war with "Greasers" commanded by a cork-legged General. Patriotism had little to do with impelling men to go into it, and precious little just principle was involved in it. Nor did it touch any republican principle. Nor did it in any way touch the existence of the country. It was simply the act of a powerful Republic against a weak one, overthrowing her by force and science, and wresting her territory away from her. It was a war which lasted but a short time. Some of the volunteers marched part way to the Rio Grande and were repulsed; some were not needed. Some fired a shot or two at Greasers in the chaparral, and then came home. Some fought two or three battles, and one column marched to the City of Mexico and occupied it, and dictated a peace there.

For the arduous duties of this huge military frolic we protest that the Mexican volunteers were well and sufficiently paid. They received, in the first place, the regular pay in full provided by Government; second, the bounties offered by the Government; and third, the allotted half-mile square or 100 acres of land at a time when they could select the choicest lands all over the Western States, Illinois included, which since that time have increased immensely in value. This is not all. It is not enough that the Mexican War opened up rich fields for loot, which officers and privates alike improved. It was a general war of grab. Everything was looked upon as legitimate booty, and every one who chose helped himself. Nor is this all. Some thousands of the Mexican War volunteers were very handsomely provided with political offices. ZACHARY TAYLOR was rewarded with the Presidency. SCOTT had the pleasure of running for it. JEFF DAVIS became President of the Southern Confederacy; and all the smaller officers,—Congressional, Legislative, Governmental, Post-Office, and Custom-House chairs,—were filled by the smaller claimants, and those who were wounded or disabled have been drawing pensions ever since.

It is fair to contend, therefore, that the Mexican volunteers have been sufficiently paid. In view of all the facts, the action of the Illinois and Indiana Legislatures in voting to saddle millions of additional taxes on their constituents for a generation to come is a cowardly, demagogical outrage. The people are taxed now until they stagger under the multiplied burdens. But what care the mendacious robes of claim-agents who are lobbying this Mexican pension-grab? Can these legislators be ignorant that the pension-list of the Government, already swelled by thirty millions in consequence of the War of the Rebellion and three or four millions on account of the War of 1812, is an almost unendurable burden, and that the Government finds great difficulty in paying it? Do they not know that this is a time of financial embarrassment; that the taxpayers of the country are groaning under their loads; that the Government has to turn and twist in every conceivable way to support itself and pay the interest on its debt; and that more taxation is about to be imposed upon the people to raise the money to

pay the enormous pension-rolls as well as the interest on the public debt? To ask Congress to impose another burden upon the suffering tax-payers of the country at a time of general financial embarrassment and distress, by paying out of the National Treasury immense sums of money, chiefly for the benefit of claim-agents and for services which have already been paid three-fold, is substantially as bad as it would be for the claim-agents to put their hands into the Treasury and steal the money. Those members who little regard for their sworn duty as legislators, and still less regard for the sufferings of their tax-ridden constituents, whom it would be well for them to remember have votes as well as the claim-agents and their clients. As the public do not justly owe them claims, they can rightfully resist it, and punish the unfaithful legislators who are attempting to fasten it upon them for the remainder of their natural lives.

A FAIR PROPOSITION.
 The telegraph brings the information that the Conservative members of the Louisiana Legislature have adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, By the House, en masse, composed of Conservative members returned by the Returning Board, and those claiming to have been legitimately elected but defeated by the Board, That, desiring in the interest of the State a speedy and equitable settlement of the Louisiana question, and relying on the integrity and fair play of the four genuine members of the Congressional Committee now in New Orleans, and in advance of any investigation on their part, as a body, hereafter assembled, that it is the sense of the House to take the returns of said committee, with all fair and relevant testimony, and to cause the same to be entered on the records of the Legislature, and to declare what members of the Legislature were fairly elected.

This is a proposition to refer the action of the Returning Board, whose alleged fraudulent returns were the origin of the later troubles in Louisiana, to Messrs. HOAR, FAYE, WHEELER, and MARSHALL, all of them Republicans except the last. The proposition coming from Conservatives, and directed to these gentlemen, is peculiarly fair; for the Committee now in New Orleans consists not only of three Republicans to one Democrat, but these three Republicans have gone to New Orleans expressly because they were not satisfied with the findings of their Republican associates, Messrs. FAYE and MARSHALL, who composed the majority of the Sub-Committee, which recently made its report. The Sub-Committee, it will be remembered, reported that "the action of the Returning Board on the whole was arbitrary, unjust, and illegal; and that this arbitrary, unjust, and illegal action alone prevented the return by the Board of a majority of Conservative members to the Lower House." The conservative members of the House show, by the proposition they have just submitted, their implicit confidence that this fact is so clear and unmistakable that the new Committee need also find it to be so, entirely irrespective of their political bias or preference.

We hope that the Committee now in New Orleans will find the time to examine into the action of the Returning Board minutely with reference to the above resolution. There is nothing obligatory upon them to do this, and their report would not be binding upon the Legislature under the law. But if their examination should confirm the findings of their predecessors, their report would exert so powerful a moral influence upon the KILLDOCK clique that they would scarcely dare to hold out against it. In other words, the proposition is for a compromise on a basis which is entirely fair, and certainly ought not, under the circumstances, to find any objections from the Republican side of the House. If it is a fact that a majority of Democrats were fairly elected to the Legislature and defeated out of their places by irregular or fraudulent procedure by the Returning Board, no Republican, consistently with the principles of the cause, can desire that the fraud be sanctioned and perpetuated. If the present Committee should not feel like going back of the returns of the Board, they will still examine into the five vacancies left undetermined. The Returning Board gave seats to 106 members,—53 Republicans and 53 Democrats, leaving the Legislature divided to fill the five remaining seats. To throw the decision upon a body equally divided in politics, and bitter as each towards the other, was of itself an embarrassment hard to overcome.

If the Conservatives of the Louisiana Legislature are willing to abide by the decision of three Republicans and one Democratic member of Congress, Republicans cannot reasonably object. In fact, an objection on their part would be a confession that they are cognizant of irregularity or fraud, or were willing to perpetuate one. The Republicans of Louisiana would still have control of the Senate, and they would only have to submit the latter question to members of their own party. If the status of the present Louisiana Legislature can be determined by such a compromise, it will be an easier matter to dispose of what the President has denominated the "gigantic fraud."

THE PRIDE OF JAPAN.

The most interesting of the Japanese in Japan rejoices in the millions named of YAMATO TOMOIKUNI OKUBO. The story of his career is the history of Japanese progress. When he was born, 45 years ago, the Mikado was a shadowy sovereign, completely under the rule of the Tycoon. He reigned as the Merovingian Kings of France did. The Tycoons, like the "Mayors of the Palace" under this feeble dynasty, had gradually usurped all real power. The Mikado had only a vague spiritual jurisdiction, although he was the nominal ruler of the Empire. The hereditary Tycoons compelled the Daimios, who are the high nobles of the country, to leave their wives and children in Yedo as hostages for their own loyalty. This had been the rule for 270 years. For nearly as long a time, they had forbidden the construction of any vessels larger than those used for fishing and for the coasting trade. This had prevented any intercourse with the civilized world. OKUBO, trained in all the learning of the schools of Japan could give, experienced in public service in his native province of Satsuma, able and progressive, joined, before he was 30, the liberal party. In 1868, that party began active efforts for the restoration of the Mikado to his hereditary dignity and for the opening of Japanese ports to the world. It has since been both a party and a movement. It has carried both the Mikado and the Government, already swayed by thirty millions in consequence of the War of the Rebellion and three or four millions on account of the War of 1812, is an almost unendurable burden, and that the Government finds great difficulty in paying it? Do they not know that this is a time of financial embarrassment; that the taxpayers of the country are groaning under their loads; that the Government has to turn and twist in every conceivable way to support itself and pay the interest on its debt; and that more taxation is about to be imposed upon the people to raise the money to

China. His success was the occasion of national rejoicing. He is now the Minister of the Interior. His countrymen are convinced that there sounds not to the trump of Fame the echo of a nobler name than that of YAMATO TOMOIKUNI OKUBO! As the particular Fame which is blowing this trumpet is of Japanese extraction, she probably finds no difficulty in wrestling with the pronunciation of the many-syllabled designation of Mr. OKUBO.

"A REAL DANGER."

The Louisville Courier-Journal has at last found a real danger and is extremely glad, apparently, to be relieved of the necessity for beating the tom-tom and pounding the bag-gew over the various sham dangers at which it pretends to be frightened from day to day. We are thankful for a respite from editorials on the imminent risk of Casuarina and a dissolution of the Kentucky Legislature by "the armed myrmidons of the modern HAYNAU," which is the Kentucky method of describing a corporal's guard of national soldiers. A half-column editorial headed "A Real Danger" brings a sigh of relief. We hasten to see what this genuine case of scare may be. The nation will be relieved to hear that it is simply that Southern Congressmen differ from other Southern men in not displaying a great zeal for Tom Scott's subsidy-scheme for building the Southern Pacific Railroad. We were aware that some difference existed. Mr. BECK, for instance, has never indulged in the pastime of Ku-Klux-Klan, which, according to the Courier-Journal, is the favorite Kentucky sport. The Courier-Journal, says, indeed, that BECK has not "gone clear daff." This is another difference between Mr. BECK and the average Kentuckian, so far as the doings of Tom Scott or Gen. SHERIDAN are concerned. The Blue-Grass natives are daft on both those topics.

The Courier-Journal, in order to avert this real danger, lists Southern statesmen and the nation in general that "the measure (Scott's subsidy) is of more importance to the South than all other questions united." We fear Mr. WATKINSON was absorbed in his literary business when this wondrous statement was passing down the South. It is to put on the South the needs of education, law, and order, fair treatment of the negroes, honest voting, less need of Federal interference, and less of that interference. We fail to see why any useless road through a desert, which will cost the whole people, South as well as North, \$6,250,000 a year for forty years, and then a lump-sum of \$125,000,000, will compass these needs or be of more importance than their satisfaction.

The Courier-Journal quotes from a private letter written by "a distinguished member of Congress" the remarkable assertion that building Tom Scott's road for him "will give the South a market for all our products such as we have not had since the War." It is kind in Mr. WATKINSON to suppress the name of the author of this flight of fancy. He might make a good novelist, judging by his skill in fiction, but the less claim he makes to professional statesmanship the better. Every market open to the South before the Civil War is still open to it now, and the largely-increased demand for goods by the ex-slaves has greatly strengthened the home market. Does it expect to ship its cotton, sugar, and tobacco to the Indians of the "alluvial plains, or the grasshoppers, who railroad communications with those valuable denizens of our mid-uplands has been established? The Digger Indians at present chew clay, but they would doubtless substitute tobacco for it if the weed were furnished free. As for the grasshoppers, they will eat everything sent them, and may what their appetites by lunching on the ties and the rails, but neither they nor the Indians can pay anything for what they consume. It needs eyes such as SAM WALKER described to see what good either of these "markets" has to do to the South. We trust the real danger is real, and that Southern Congressmen are therefore more sensible than Southern constituents.

THE NEBRASKA SENATOR.
 There has not been an election for United States Senator in any State this year which has not either developed a surprise or been characterized by a force contest. The election in Nebraska fell into the place to be vacated by Senator TAYLOR was no exception to the rule. The two leading candidates were Gen. J. M. THAYER, one of the first Senators from Nebraska, and Gen. A. S. PANDOLF, formerly Secretary of the Territory, Nebraska, and Acting Territorial Governor. Both are Republicans. The Legislature, being largely Republican, had divided into factions, and the Democrats held the balance of power. It was the Democratic vote which finally elected Gov. PANDOLF by 58 to 11 for Thayer and 5 scattering. The reason why the Democrats finally voted against THAYER will be apparent from the following letter, written in 1867, and privately circulated among the Democratic members. It is said to have determined them to support any Republican in order to defeat the writer of it: (Signed) W. DEAN RICE: I am very strongly of the opinion that a law should be passed disfranchising from voting and holding office all citizens of Nebraska who served in the Rebel army, or in any way gave aid and comfort to the enemy. I have sent a draft of such a law to Mr. PANDOLF. I do hope the Territorial Legislature will pass it, and then it will be continued under the State constitution. I have also sent him a Registry law. There ought to be one in Nebraska. If it were, it would shut out a host of ill-considered voters. I trust the State Legislature will promptly give its assent to the condition of the law of admission. The Republican party of the country generally is looking with great interest to the admission of Nebraska. They are anxious for the increase of Republican Senators in the Senate. Please do what you can to have everything ready in the favorable condition. Very truly yours, Wm. M. THAYER.

There could not have been many ex-Rebels in the entire Territory of Nebraska when it was applied for admission into the Union, and it was foolish on the part of Gen. THAYER to recommend their disfranchisement. The unanimity with which the Democrats recently recommended the admission of this old territory, however, shows the Bourbon quality of their natures. They are no more inclined to forgive and forget now than Gen. THAYER was when he signed that letter. At that session in this case

has resulted in sending an excellent man to the United States Senate from Nebraska, who will represent the prevailing sentiments of the State, which the present occupants of the seat has not done, and set like a gentleman instead of a buffoon,—we have no particular reason to complain of Bourbonism in this case.

THE SENATORIAL FIGHT IN TENNESSEE.

The most interesting Senatorial election that has taken place in any State for a long time is that now going on in the Legislature of Tennessee for United States Senator. The Legislature consists of 100 members. Of these there are but eight Republicans. That party may therefore be considered out of the fight, which is exclusively among the Democrats. The Democratic candidates are an arena. Though the party has 92 of the 100 members, it has been so far unsuccessful in uniting a sufficient number to elect. The popular feeling of the State seems to be in favor of ANDREW JOHNSON, who, beginning with 15 or 16 votes, now controls some 43. Time seems to be working for ANDY. In Tennessee, members of the Legislature recognize the right of instruction, and several of JOHNSON'S opponents in the Legislature have already changed their votes to him because of written instructions and petitions sent to them signed by a majority of the voters in their districts.

On Saturday, ex-Rebel Gen. BATE received 48 votes for Senator, when 49 were required to elect, and he would have been elected had not one of the members who would have voted for him been so overcome by the excitement of the scene that he had to be carried fainting from the hall. The next ballot showed a falling off for BATE, and his chance seems to have departed.

The fight in Tennessee is the old one, in which ANDREW JOHNSON has taken a part during his whole public life. He has never endorsed the respect or confidence of the "upper class" or aristocracy of Southern politicians. He was never a secessionist, nor a nullifier. He rejected the extreme doctrine of States Rights and State Sovereignty Democrats. He has always been a National, as opposed to a State Sovereignty, Democrat. When the War came, JOHNSON adhered to the Union, and the others followed the "State" into rebellion. But, nevertheless, JOHNSON has always had the support of the majority of the people of Tennessee, as he has now in this fight with his old Democratic enemies. If the election can be prolonged a few days, it is more than likely that ANDY will "swing around the circle" again into his old seat which he occupied at the time the Rebellion broke out.

THE TERRITORIES AND FUTURE STATES.

The 100th parallel of longitude divides the American Republic into two very nearly equal parts, geographically, though very unequal so far as fertility, population, and wealth are concerned. To the east of it, the land is good. To the west, the land is, on the whole, bad. The 100th parallel cuts off, on the eastern side, about half of Texas, of the Indian Territory, and of Kansas and Nebraska, and a sixth or eighth of Dakota. It marks with curious exactness the limit of arable land in this country, and the line where the grasshoppers most abound. The first-class soil really ceases with the parallel, which divides the fertile and grasshoppery begins, but the change from the very good to the middling and indifferent and from the indifferent to the positively bad consumes two degrees. West of the 100th parallel, the arid lands stretch for 1,000 miles. There are, of course, exceptions to the general rule of badness. The three parks of Colorado are believed to be fertile. Constant irrigation could, in fact, render considerable of this Territory productive, but there is not water enough for this purpose. The San Luis section, between Colorado and New Mexico, is said to contain good land, but is badly deficient in rain. There are strips of passably fertile soil along the line of J. P. COOK'S subsidized railroad. The basins of the largest streams form ribbons of fertility, now a mile or two broad and now a few rods or feet. Moreover, the sheltered valleys flanked by the mountains catch enough moisture to yield rich pasture and fair returns to the plow. Due allowance must be made for all these exceptions. Yet, after every inch of fertile soil has been tabulated, including the Mesilla Valley, Powder River, the Laramie Plains, the Black Hills Valley, etc., the general rule of badness still holds good. The quotations we have already made from Gen. HAZEN'S instructive article in the January number of the North American Review, reinforced as they are by the official reports of the army exploring expeditions which have traversed nearly every square mile of this vast region, show that a bird's-eye view of it would reveal a desert waste, a stretch of sun-scorched, high plains, of rugged hill-slopes and bleak mountains, of volcanic rocks and wastes, with spots and strips of fertile land, like oases in the African desert. Frightful storms sweep over the country. Snow in winter and sand in summer drift along the dreary, waterless plains. The rain-fall, which averages 55 inches in fertile countries, here ranges from 10 to 15 inches, and averaging scarcely 11 inches. The summer months are dry and hot. The vegetation grows in the stunted. The reasons for this lie in the topography of the country. Geologists tell us that a long time ago this vast section of 1,200,000 square miles, from the 100th parallel to the Sierra Nevada and from British America to Mexico, rose from the ocean. It was lifted to an average height of a mile above the sea. Walls of volcanic rock pushed their way up through it. The great Sierras cut off the clouds to which the "Gulf Stream" of the Pacific gives birth. These clouds drift towards the north-east and drop their burdens of rain between the coast and the mountains. A little rain falls in Southern California,—only a few inches per annum. In Northern California and Oregon the rains are abundant, and so are the crops. Up in Alaska it rains most of the time. Occasional depressions in the mountain-chain, cut by rivers, allow the clouds to drift into the interior, but in general they vanish at these high walls of rock. Thus these vast uplands on the eastern side of this wall are left unwatershed. This interior of America is as dry and barren as the vast steppes of Siberia. With the exceptions of fertile spots we have already noted (and these must not be lost sight of) it is practically valueless for agricultural purposes. Portions of it may be filled, yet with unimproved gold and silver, but the single State of Illinois could produce more grain, twice over, than this vast expanse of arid and alkali high land. It is the American Siberia. The best use that could be made of most of it would be to treat it as Russia does the old, original Siberia, and ship our disappointed and detected politicians there.

There are one or two reasons to be drawn from these hard facts. The first is the folly of wasting enormous amounts of good timber, good iron, good labor, and good money, in laying thousands of miles of track for the sake of "developing a country," most of which won't be "developed." As the region east of the 100th parallel gradually thickens its population, pioneers will doubtless push over into the fertile spots of this section, and fill them to the extent of their sustaining power, and railroads will be built to them as soon as there is any business or necessity therefor.

The second lesson is the expediency of consolidating some of our Territories. They have been laid out too numerous, because their capabilities for supporting a population have been greatly overrated. Large square miles, they are small in producing power. One reason for their subdivision has been the greed for office. Their Governments have been based upon the spoils of political warfare. There are now nine Territories, exclusive of the great Indian Territory, which are very scantily peopled. When their available soil is all occupied, they will probably together contain no more people and produce no more food than either Illinois, or Iowa, or Missouri then will. Will it be fair to give them eighteen Senators against the two Senators of each of those States? Some of them are already clamoring for admission as States, excited thereto by the luck of Nevada, with her handful of population. One man in Nevada has been so successful as to get a hundred in New York. The very same man, by getting admitted at the last session of Congress, has HAZEN says that if "the army, its hangers-on, and transient miners" were withdrawn from New Mexico, "the remaining American population could sit in the shade of a good-sized apple-tree." Two or three of the larger Territories, with a mere handful of population apiece, have petitioned Congress to slice them into several parts. Political bums want more offices. The best policy is not further division, but consolidation. It would be unfair to the States already in the Union to throw a spare, thin population scattered over this barren waste to swell eighteen Senators to Washington to counterbalance the whole "Northwest," and it would be unfair to the few inhabitants themselves to make them support twice or thrice the needed number of State Governments. New Mexico and Arizona should be reunited. Utah should be tacked on to Nevada. Oregon should swallow up Washington Territory, and two States-should be carved out of Idaho, Montana, Dakota, Wyoming, and Colorado. California, which contains much fertile land and enormous agricultural capabilities, is twice as large as Utah or Colorado, but her people would not tolerate the idea of division. Texas, which contains three or four times the area of New Mexico, Arizona, and twice or thrice as much really fertile land as all the Territories combined, refuses to be subdivided, and yet some day those Territories, with half or third the population of Texas, will have eighteen Senators to her two! Is this fair?

In 1839, when the Legislature of Illinois adopted her magnificent scheme of internal improvements, the City of Shawneetown was the great centre to which all the railroads of the State were directed. In the prosecution of that system of improvements, the State, by the aid of its banks, was reduced to bankruptcy. Part of the work that was left as an evidence of what had been done with the money was a few miles of graded roadway thrown up near Shawneetown. In the abandonment of the scheme, this was also abandoned. It seems that the embankment throws up for the railroad crossed a small stream whose water was thus turned. In the forty years that have elapsed, time and neglect and the rains have worked an outlet for the water of this little ditch, and now come the Mayor and City Council of the City of Shawneetown with a claim against the State of Illinois for \$60,000 damages to the streets of the ancient metropolis, caused by the construction of the graded roadway in 1839, on which no rail or tie was ever laid. Two years ago the Legislature was importuned to appropriate that sum, and the claim is now presented again. If Shawneetown escaped the partial construction of the various works of internal improvement begun by the State forty years and more ago with a loss of only \$60,000, then it is more fortunate than the rest of the State. The State of Illinois, after a rest of six or eight years, has been paying principal and interest nearly forty millions of dollars to pay for grading railroads on which never a wheel has rolled. At any time within the last forty years the people of Shawneetown, at an expense of a few hundred dollars, could have remedied the evil and avoided the damages, but they did not choose to do so. The present claim looks very much like a job taken on shares by somebody, and one having no other equity than the general one that it is always fair to plunder the State.

The disasters to the British marine during the past month have been unparalleled in number and severity. The list is simply appalling. First came the cable steamer La Plata, which went down, involving a loss of sixty lives. This was quickly followed by the sinking of the emigrant ship Comstock, one of the most terrible disasters on record. Out of 450 people on board only three were saved. During the present month, six British steamers have been lost. The Cortes, in the Bay of Biscay; the Bride, off the French coast; the Alice, from Cardiff to Constantinople; the Berar, from Odessa for Cardiff; the Thornbairn, from Cardiff for Bombay; and the Mongol, near Hong Kong; the six disasters involving a loss of 121 lives, which, added to the two previously mentioned, makes the total of 628 lives lost within the past few weeks. In view of this fearful sacrifice of human life in such a short space of time, Mr. FURNESSE, the British member of Parliament, seems to be justified in saying that he has made that the English marine companies have no souls, and are knowingly sending out rotten vessels which are entirely unworthy and liable to go down at any moment. It is now possible that the English Parliament will pay some attention to Mr. FURNESSE'S charges, and that the insurance companies will join him in demanding an investigation.

The intelligent post-reader has been heard from recently. Dr. BYRAT described Mr. TAYLOR's march into court "with a shy school-boy air between a brace of turkeys." But the I. F. knew better. He took in the situation of the case, and when his laborer told Mr. TAYLOR's march in with a "shy school-boy air between a brace of turkeys." W. W. SWART, the post-painter-sculptor, was mentioned, but the superior knowledge of the I. F. came to the rescue of THE TRIBUNE. There was an error known to him, the editor of the Times, and the I. F. was urged by his divine intelligence to introduce this gentleman into the paragraph.

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—The State as Ord**

LOUISIANA

NEW ORLEANS IN A DEAD C

AGAINST GEN. S

Special Correspondence of

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 20.

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tion of the country, has
A BROAD C
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New Orleans to Washington
of all degrees and beliefs
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quarrel with the Federal G
a very fine line between a

State and the "boy in blue" thing.

The feeling in what are called "circles" of New Orleans is

VERY BITTER AGAINST G.

It is not so much what he might do, that makes them but what he has said of them has branded them as "assassins." Thousands of people

walks of life, are honest, respectable,—who are esteemed born, and are the pillar of society,—can not regret that they have done to deserve that which Sheridan has applied in sentencing to the death "of not good as themselves. By these cold-blooded murders were those of the eight unfortunate ones—six white and two colored—consented to the death "of to take any measures to

[illegible]

by the lieutenant-governors of the Army, and it is not an honor to hear how they will serve when the Democratic Government. He is the cause of such petty insults as the rise. His statement in one night-stand threats of the "senate him."

"HE WAS NOT A BEEN MADE THE SUBJECT OF IT IS ON THE TONGUE OF EVERY IING BETTER TO SAY. ONE SHOP-WINDOW, REPRESENTS A BOBBLES, HANGING BY HIS HAND

Bill he is represented as afraid." The newspapers pouncing with "I am not afraid" passes through the rotunda Hotel, he is sometimes greeted pressed hians, and people say am not afraid."

The General takes this, h commendable and

ASTONISHING FOG!

Nothing seems to disturb. he

on his reports getting all the
man collect. He receives visits
friends and some few citi-
of the latter class keep
from him. Among his
are the newspaper men,
always pleasant and courteous
he is a great favorite. The Gu-
sent from the city, having taken
on Morgan's Louisiana &
Brazhara City, and will return
This is a very peculiar people
without their hobby. They all
body to abuse. It was at one

ly was chief villain in at present
SHERIDAN IS THE
I sometimes think the people
are like what a certain politician
think of his name—said of him
“They never knew what they got
were never easy until they got
What is to be the result of
to say. For the good of the
safety of the country, thereous
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meat, in each respect, can har

the city is absolutely dry and the strong hand is laid upon the community, and kept this trouble will be worked up and finds itself plunged into another

ARKANSAS
THE SITUATION OF AFFAIRS AS
FUELBURN.
To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune
DR. WALLS BLUFF, ARK., Jan. 10
morning of hope and promise

editor like yourself, of a veteran journal like yours, takes up the principles in the same time of an oppressed and so long misruled, and so much misrepresented, by "the carpet-baggers and their retainers."

came to Arkansas in pursuit of
er, for the most part, and be-
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REPUBLICAN AFFAIRS
as ex-Chief Justice John Mc-
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